

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01

PRS-01 /094 W

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R 111441Z JUN 75T

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4498

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 5793

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG EG

SUBJECT: MINISTER OF PETROLEUM PREDICTS NEW OIL DISCOVERIES

1. DURING APPEARANCE AT PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (PA) JUNE 10,
IN CONNECTION WITH PA APPROVAL OF NEW FRENCH OIL EXPLORATION
AGREEMENT (ERAP/AQUITAIN SIGNED 26TH OF SERIES OF OIL
EXPLORATION CONTRACTS IN CURRENT EXPANSION OF ACTIVITY IN EGYPT),
MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AHMAD HILAL TOLD PA THAT NEW DISCOVERIES
WILL BE ANNOUNCED QUOTE SOON UNQUOTE. MINISTRY SPOKESMAN
HAS TOLD US THAT HILAL DID NOT MEAN TO PRESAGE MAJOR NEW
ANNOUNCEMENT, BUT GAVE STATEMENT ONLY FOR PA CONSUMPTION
IN CONTEXT CRITICAL QUESTION RE RECENT OIL CONCESSIONACTIVITY.

2. POSSIBLY RELATED TO HILAL'S STATEMENT IS FACT THAT NO 2
WELL ATAMOCO'S NEW RAMADAN FIELD WAS COMPLETED JUNE 10.
ACCORDING TO AMOCO, WELL CONTAINS 800 FEET OF OIL BEARING
LOAD, AS COMPARED WITH OVER 1400 FEET AT RAMADAN NO 1 WELL.
ALL CONCERNED EXPECT, THEREFORE, THAT FIELD WILL BE ABOUT

AS LARGE AS MORGAN FIELD (APPROX 1 BILLION BARRELS RESERVE).
SUCH CAPACITY IS ENCOURAGING FOR FUTURE EXPLORATION IN GULF
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OF SUEZ, ESPECIALLY IF FREE ACCESS TO EASTERN SIDE IS OBTAINED.

EILTS

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Message Attributes

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